

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

LESTER "BUBBA" CARPENTER

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March 21, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Public Notice Reply; IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

In emergent situations, effective communications is not just convenient; it is crucial. My years as a paramedic in rural Mississippi have deepened my reliance on, and appreciation for, real time communication between first responders. Fortunately, Mississippi has adopted the MSWIN system, which provides us with secure telecommunications despite weather and other variable conditions, but without this system in place, I would worry about how inclement weather would affect our communications every time severe weather threatened. And for the residents in our vulnerable region, this is a very real concern. Lack of access to broadband is a reality that we live with; one that needs to be addressed.

LightSquared would give those of us in rural Mississippi affordable access to broadband and telecommunications through their integrated satellite / terrestrial technology, which is why I urge you to be aggressive in developing a solution that will allow deployment of the LightSquared network. They have worked with the FCC and GPS industry on good faith for over a decade, and privately funded their investment to the tune of \$4 billion. They have the ability to offer an affordable solution to the nation's pending spectrum shortage and the communications crisis that will inevitably result. And in the 21st century, I'm confident that there is an answer that protects GPS while making room in the market for LightSquared to bridge the communications gap for millions of rural Americans. Please, explore every alternative solution and be ardent in your role both as mediator, and as advocate for advanced telecommunications technology.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lester Carpenter".
Representative Lester Carpenter
District 1